Observations on the nest of the Singing Bushlark.—The air-strip at Mitchell Plateau, North Kimberley W.A. is the haunt for quite a number of individuals of the Singing Bushlark *(Mirafra javanica);* 30-40 birds are usually to be seen at a time during maintenanee work. In the wet season, October to Mareh, the strip is mown at monthly intervals. A traetor with a P.T.O. driven slasher is used.

When mowing on Mareh 23, 1979, I found three nests; on Mareh 24 another five, and on Mareh 26 four more; a total of twelve nests. Ten of these had three eggs or newly hatehed ehieks, one nest had two eggs and another had one egg. In one area there were four nests, a eheek showed these to be around 100 m apart.

The only indieation of a nest would be when a bird flew from beneath a elump of grass. All the nests were under the same speeies of speargrass, a small round, domed nest with the side entrance at ground level. The eight nests found on the first two days all eontained eggs; two of these nests I had mowed over and saw the parent fly off the eggs. On the next run I eovered these with grass whieh the parent readily aeeepted. After a day off and starting again on Mareh 26, on my first round I found a nest whieh the mower had been over two days previously; as the mower euts 5 em from ground level, the top half of the nest was missing and three newly hatehed ehieks were eompletely exposed to the elements. No effort had been made to reeonstruet the nest. This nest I also eovered with grass and again the parents tolerated the interferenee. The nests were eheeked on Mareh 27. Eaeh had ehieks; exeept the nest whieh had one egg, this now eontained three eggs. In the nest with two eggs two nestlings were present.

Rainfall during the past wet season was well below normal, until a tropieal low formed off the eoast whieh subsequently developed into eyelone Hazel; this low brought 340 mm of rain at the airstrip from Mareh 7 to 10. Perhaps this stimulated the nesting to take plaee simultaneously among so many individual pairs.

—J. A. SMITH, Maylands.

Some Mistletoes and Hosts from the Murehison and Wooramel Rivers, W.A.—During April 13-15, 1979 visits were made to the Murehison River (27°31'S, 115°47'E) and the Wooramel River (25°47'S, 115°58'E) in Western Australia in order to examine the flora and fauna of these areas. A brief survey of mistletoes (Loranthaeeae) and their hosts were made at the two loealities.

1. Murehison River. (a) *Amyema preissii* (Miq.) Tiegh.— reeorded on *Acacia rostellifera* and *A. victoriae.* Barlow, *(Aust. J. Bot.,* 14, 1966: 421-499) notes this speeies usually parasitie on *Acacia* (19 speeies known as hosts) but does not list them. The following Western Australian aeaeias have been reeorded as hosts for *A. preissii* (based on colleetions at the W.A. Herbarium, PERTH): *A. acuminata, A. blakelyi, A. cyclops, A. oswaldii, A. saligna, A. stenophylla* and *A. trachycarpa.* (b) *Amyema* sp.— an undetermined *Amyema* was eolleeted from *Eucalyptus microtheca* (trees of whieh were eommonly growing along the banks of the river). (e) *Lysiana casuarinae* (Miq.) Tiegh.—colleeted from *Santalum acuminatum.* Barlow *(loc. cit.)* reeords the following hosts—*Casuarina glauca, Acacia aneura, Exocarpos aphyllus, Hakea* sp., and *Melaleuca* sp. Data on a speeimen in the W.A. Herbarium (PERTH) eolleeted 9 ml. (14.4 km) E. of Wittenoom (22°15'S, 118°27'E) (ACB 11527) during 1965, reeords *S. acuminatum* as host of *L. casuarinae,* therefore this appears to represent a new host reeord.

2. Wooramel River. Mistletoes appeared to be uneommon in this area despite the abundanee of several *Acacia* spp. whieh eould aet as suitable hosts. (a) *Amyema fitzgeraldii* (Blakely) Dans.—collected from *Acacia acuminata.* No other speeies of mistletoe were seen. Barlow (loe. eit.) reeords the eommon host as *A. aneura* and other "*Acacia* spp." Another Western Australian host reeord is *A. tetragonophylla* (Cape Range, e. 22°06'S, 114°00'E, George 6563).